

The Austin duo of Pat and Barbara K. MacDonald, better known as Timbuk 3 and for their hit, "The Future's So Bright I Gotta Wear Shades," have given up their high tech boom-box rhythm section and now have a real drummer, Wally Ingram; a real bass player, Courtney Audain; and a new album *Big Shot in the Dark* (I.R.S.). The real band approach doesn't hurt, but Timbuk 3 were good musicians, singers and songwriters to begin with. The new album continues their pointedly sarcastic, quite humorous and always on target world-view. More accurately it's a country view for *Big Shot* presents pictures of the bad ol' U.S.A. from all kinds of nasty angles complimented by a healthy and funky mix of musical styles and danceable rhythms. They haven't been here for a while, but they're excellent in person coming off as real people instead of performers. The sneer in Pat MacDonald's voice says as much as his barbed wire lyrics.

Timbuk 3: Nov. 6 at 9:15 p.m. at Chestnut Cabaret, 38th and Chestnut Sts., (cover varies) 382-1201.

--Peter Brown